



GEAR UP SCHOLARSHIP

FACT SHEET



The GEAR UP Program was implemented in Nevada to significantly increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. The following questions and answers will provide an overview of some basic information you need to successfully receive a GEAR UP grant. There will be questions that are not answered here; and, for that reason, it is important that you seek assistance from your GEAR UP counselor or GEAR UP contacts.

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO IN HIGH SCHOOL?

As a GEAR UP High School student, you will become eligible for a GEAR UP scholarship when minimal standards set by the Nevada GEAR UP State Council have been met:

- Attend a Nevada GEAR UP High School (listed on the back) for at least three years, stay in school until high school graduation, make satisfactory progress and graduate with a diploma spring 2007*. Upon completion of high school students must have a grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0, weighted or unweighted, on a 4.0 grading scale or whatever GPA meets the acceptance requirement of the institution the students plans to attend (UNLV & UNR minimum entrance requirement for the class of 2007 is 2.75). When calculating the GPA for GEAR UP scholarship eligibility, all high school credit bearing course work will be used.
- Be a resident of Nevada as defined by the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) for at least three years of high school.
- Participate in GEAR UP approved activities or services. One level one and two level two activities are required per year. (GEAR UP Activities are listed on next page).
- Assist in evaluating GEAR UP by responding to surveys, questionnaires and interviews.
- Demonstrate good behavior with no NRS 392.466 offenses during school activities and pass the Nevada high school proficiency exams.
- Learn about other financial aid sources and complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Enroll in college, (see below... "Where can I use the GEAR UP Scholarship").

*Certification of eligibility for the GEAR UP scholarship for high school graduates will be established by the list of graduates provided by the Nevada GEAR UP High Schools. Early GEAR UP graduates (2006) are eligible.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE GEAR UP SCHOLARSHIP?

- The GEAR UP Scholars eligible for a GEAR UP Scholarship are Nevada students who are members of the class of 2007, who were enrolled by November 30, 2002 of their 8th grade year at Amargosa Valley, Dyer, Gabbs, McDermitt, Owyhee, Schurz, Traner, Cashman, Martin, Orr, Smith, Von Tobel and West Middle Schools or students who participated in GEAR UP high school activities for three or more years in GEAR UP funded high schools.
- The GEAR UP Scholar must successfully demonstrate good behavior with no NRS 392.466 offenses and sign an agreement form with their parent or guardian that pledged their commitment to stay in school, study hard and prepare for college.
- Qualified students may receive a GEAR UP Scholarship during the six academic years following their high school graduation. Exceptions may be made for qualified students who serve on active duty in the United States Armed Forces.
- GEAR UP financial assistance will apply to undergraduate studies only and is limited to attainment of the first Bachelor's degree.

WHERE CAN I USE THE GEAR UP SCHOLARSHIP?

The GEAR UP Scholarship can be used at eligible Nevada institutions of higher education. Eligible institutions are:

- A university, state college or community college of the NSHE
- A nonsectarian institution of higher education in Nevada that provides a match to the GEAR UP scholarship monies and was originally established in, and is organized under the laws of the state, and is exempt from taxation pursuant to 26 U.S.C.501c3, and is accredited by the regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or an eligible Tribal College that may be located outside the state of Nevada.

WHAT IS A GEAR UP PARENT?

While the student is enrolled in a GEAR UP school, the parent/guardian agrees to:

- A) Support the Scholar's goals to complete high school and attend college.
- B) Learn about higher education and student financial aid programs.
- C) Participate in GEAR UP activities a minimum of 2 times per year:
 - Attending information sessions
 - Volunteering for program activities
 - Accompanying their student on field trips
 - Reading information packets provided by site coordinators
- D) Participation is required in studies of the effectiveness of the GEAR UP Project by:
 - Completing questionnaires and participating in interviews about the Scholars and family participation in school and GEAR UP, questionnaire and interview answers will be kept strictly confidential by all GEAR UP personnel.
 - Allowing the GEAR UP school/district regularly to monitor the Scholar's school performance, including grades, attendance, completion of credit, and disciplinary records: Scholars and parent/guardian personal information will be kept strictly confidential by all GEAR UP personnel. Reporting of data will be completely anonymous.

GEAR UP SCHOLARSHIP

FACT SHEET

(Continued)

GEAR UP LEVEL ONE ACTIVITIES

Must be a rigorous academic class or college preparation (at least one per year)

- Tutoring
- Test Preparation - High School Proficiency, College Entrance Exams
- Summer School
- Upward Bound
- Talent Search
- Enrollment in Honors/Advanced Placement classes
- Dual credit college classes/Early Studies Program
- Correspondence/Distance learning classes
- Magnet Schools/Programs
- Foreign Language class
- Upper Level Career Technical Education Courses/Programs
- ROTC
- Service/Community Learning (minimum of 45 hours)
- Close-Up with preparation class/club
- Supplemental Programs, with approval by the GEAR UP State Office

GEAR UP LEVEL TWO ACTIVITIES

College preparatory supplemental activities (at least two activities per year)

- Co-curricular activities
- Academic, college and career counseling
- Mentoring
- Family and Community Engagement
- Peer Support
- Cultural Event
- Career Fairs
- College Fairs
- College Counseling
- Parent/Family Meetings about College Entrance and GEAR UP
- College Visits
- Summer College Visits or College Camp
- Financial Aid Workshop
- Financial Aid Training
- Validated/approved academic plan, i.e., Graduate Profile Booklet, LINKS, Portfolio
- Validated/active participation in school-sponsored extra curricular activities that require a minimum GPA above 2.0 for participation, including sports
- Internships/Externships – school approved
- Community Service or Service Learning
- High School Orientation Programs
- Classroom GEAR UP Presentation
- Girls State and Boys State
- Junior Achievement
- Supplemental Programs, with approval by the GEAR UP State Office

NEVADA GEAR UP HIGH SCHOOLS **2005 - 06**

Clark County School District

- Canyon Springs HS
- Clark HS
- Del Sol HS
- Desert Pines HS
- Eldorado HS
- Mojave HS
- Rancho HS
- Western HS
- Valley HS
- Southern Nevada Vocational Technical HS
- Other CCSD High Schools

Elko County School District

- Owyhee HS

Humboldt County School District

- McDermitt HS

Lyon County School District

- Yerington HS

Mineral County School District

- Mineral County HS

Nye County School District

- Beatty HS
- Gabbs HS
- Tonopah HS

Washoe County School District

- Hug HS
- Other WCSD High Schools

There are GEAR UP students in other Nevada High Schools. Check with your high school for eligibility.

GEAR UP CONTACTS

Nevada GEAR UP State Office
Nevada Department of Education
1749 Moody Street
Carson City, Nevada 89706
775-687-9244
Charlotte Curtis
GEAR UP Coordinator
ccurtis@doe.nv.gov
Marj Robinson
GEAR UP Specialist
Clark County School District
702-799-6830 1-1-4322
mbr352@interact.ccsd.net

There are many types of financial aid available to assist you in offsetting the cost of attending college; the GEAR UP Scholarship is only one of these. It is important that you contact campus financial aid offices as early as January of your senior year to explore the full range of financial assistance options available to you. The following are important contacts for you if you have additional questions:

- Your high school counselor
- The Admissions Office and the Financial Aid Office of the eligible institution you are considering
- Nevada GEAR UP State Office (775)-687-9244